

Financial Services, or their designees; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken tomorrow.

#### AUTHORIZING ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL TO PERMIT TEM- PORARY CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER WORK ON CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 167) authorizing the Architect of the Capitol to permit temporary construction and other work on the Capitol Grounds that may be necessary for construction of a building on Constitution Avenue Northwest, between 2nd Street Northwest and Louisiana Avenue Northwest.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 167

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),*

#### SECTION 1. USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS.

The Architect of the Capitol may permit temporary construction and other work on the Capitol Grounds that may be necessary for construction of a building on Constitution Avenue Northwest, between 2nd Street Northwest and Louisiana Avenue Northwest. Such work may include activities resulting in temporary obstruction of a curbside parking lane on Louisiana Avenue Northwest and on Constitution Avenue Northwest, between 2nd Street Northwest and Louisiana Avenue Northwest.

#### SEC. 2. PERIOD OF USE.

Work on the Capitol Grounds under section 1 is authorized during the period beginning August 6, 1999, and ending October 31, 2001, or such longer period as the Architect of the Capitol determines necessary.

#### SEC. 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Work on the Capitol Grounds under section 1 may not begin until the Architect of the Capitol receives such assurances as the Architect may require to ensure that—

(1) all areas of the Capitol Grounds that are disturbed by reason of such work will be restored to their original condition without expense to the United States; and

(2) such work will be carried out so as not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The United States shall not incur any expense or liability incident to any activity associated with work on the Capitol Grounds under section 1.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS).

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 167 will authorize the Architect of the Capitol to enter into an agreement with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners for a construction project that is scheduled to begin August 15, 1999.

The Carpenters and Joiners Union headquarters is located on Constitution Avenue between 2nd Street and Louisiana Avenue, Northwest. This property is adjacent to the Capitol Grounds.

The Union plans to demolish its existing headquarters and construct a new larger facility. In order to do this, a small section of parking spots and a sidewalk on Louisiana Avenue will be closed for about 2 years.

Let me be clear about the affected area along Constitution Avenue and Louisiana Avenue. It is the curbside lane between 1st and 2nd Street, Northwest only. This authority in no way extends beyond those two streets insofar as the Capitol Grounds are concerned.

This activity will not interfere with the needs of Congress and will not cost the government. The building owners will restore all affected areas of the Capitol Grounds to its original condition once construction is completed.

I support this resolution wholeheartedly and urge my colleagues to join in support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 2130

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, Mr. Speaker, may I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) for the way in which he has shepherded this matter through committee and to the floor. I am very grateful for the attention he has given it. May I also thank the distinguished ranking member the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) for his invaluable assistance in getting this matter to the floor this evening. I very much appreciate the work of my own chairman the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) who in committee today saw to it that this matter came and was expeditiously handled in the subcommittee itself. This straightforward resolution will allow the Architect of the Capitol to permit temporary construction and necessary other work on the Capitol grounds. The site is along Constitution Avenue in

my district between Second Street and Louisiana Avenue Northwest and along Louisiana to First Street Northwest. The construction project will create a high end building with class A office space right here at the foot of Capitol Hill. The new building will be 10 stories high and will contain 500,000 square feet. The Architect has requested a resolution to permit the temporary closing of the curb lane along Louisiana Avenue and Constitution Avenue.

Again I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for the very expeditious way in which he has handled this matter and for his continued support for activities that positively affect the economic health of the Nation's capital, the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time. I rise to support the resolution and to express my great appreciation to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) for moving so expeditiously on this matter which is very timely for the carpenters union for the replacement and construction of this facility so near to the Capitol. I appreciate the support of the chairman of the subcommittee also for acting so quickly. I want to compliment the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia on her steadfast persistence and leadership on this matter. She is a true advocate and champion for the District and a great voice.

This facility has one of the prime locations in all of Washington. It shall be very interesting to see the facility removed and reconstructed. I understand that there is a splendid plan to replace that facility. It is very important to all who are concerned, not only those building the structure but those who are going to rent, the various associations that would be a part of this.

I just wanted to rise and express my great appreciation to the majority for moving so quickly on a matter of such timely importance to those involved and again to compliment the gentlewoman for her leadership and express my great appreciation to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) for his cooperation.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I very much appreciate the remarks of the ranking member the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR). I do want to say that I know that the carpenters union is as grateful for the way in which this has been handled this evening as I am. I want to assure the House that the matter under construction has received already the approval of the appropriate Federal and local authorities and will continue to go through those approvals. We needed only now the approval of the House to make sure the construction could indeed proceed.